



Dear Friends,

Two weeks ago, Pamela Moulton invited me to the opening of her latest public art collaboration, *Beneath the Forest, Beneath the Trees*, which was commissioned by TempoART. The installation features three oversized large pink and purple wondrous structures that have found a home in Portland's Payson Park through the summer and into the early fall.

TempoART's Samantha Butler says "The pieces are reminiscent of macro and microorganisms; often gone unnoticed or unseen by the human eye... These sculptures inspire exploration, storytelling and spark conversations about protecting our environment."

The sculptures have been created with more than 10 tons of derelict fishing equipment, known in the industry as ghost gear, from the Gulf of Maine. More importantly, the work of gathering, unravelling, tying, weaving, painting and transforming the materials into the three large structures was completed with the help of [more than 5,600 individuals](#).

At the opening event, one of the speakers was Casco

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Bay High School's award-winning Principal Derek Pierce. Dressed in his own shawl of pink untangled pieces of netting, Pierce passionately praised Moulton and her process of open inclusion on the project. "I have had the great fortune to collaborate with Pamela several times over the years, and this project in Payson Park has been our richest collaboration to date," he told the crowd. He had special praise for the way that the project involved students from his school and many others. He said, "As we conclude another year of challenging pandemic schooling, Pamela's project has catalyzed the two things our students need the most – meaningful work and unfettered joy."

Beneath the Forest, Beneath the Trees was an important and inclusive project for students. But it was so much more. The very long list of collaborators includes: The Cedars, Center for Coastal Studies Marine Debris and Plastics Program, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Children's Museum and Theatre of Maine, DSO Creative Fabrication, The Ecology School, Evo Rock + Fitness, Flatbread Company, Girl Scouts of America, Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation, Maine College of Art and Design, Mayo Enterprises LLC, Sherwin Williams, Spindleworks, Standard Baking Company, Sterling Rope Company, and Transformat, among many others.

A project like this speaks so clearly to the concepts of cooperation and collaboration in the creation of impactful arts.

But for us, it's also a wonderful reminder of why we do our work. For those of us who have spent our lives believing in the transformative power of the arts, 'meaningful work and unfettered joy' has always been the goal.

Too often we find ourselves divided by our specific disciplines, or the rivalries and turf wars that sometimes arise as we chase the same sources of funding and the arts-loving audience. We would do well to remember that by working together, finding the passions that unite rather than divide us, and celebrating creation with other artists and non-artists in our communities, we have the best chance to find meaning and joy in our work.

As we move beyond the closures and uncertainties

Portland Artist Pamela Moulton



of Covid, it's more important than ever to recognize that our art plays a critical role in the health and spirit of our communities. Or, to return to Samantha Butler's comments, I urge us to consider how our art includes exploration, storytelling, and sparks conversations.

-David Greenham



Upcoming Public Commission Meetings:

July 13, 2022

September 14, 2022

November 9, 2022

[Contact](#) our agency if interested in attending. We would love you to join us.

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

FLOURISH FESTIVAL

Local artists shine with the Maine/New Brunswick Cultural Exchange program.



Music artist **Just Plain Jones** from Westbrook entertains a crowd at Flourish Fest.

Photos: Chris Battaglia/Waterfall Arts

In mid-June a troupe of bright, up-and-coming artists and creative leaders from Maine loaded into several vans and headed to the Canadian border. They were to be featured in a five-day multi-cultural event called Flourish Festival in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

Festival goers thirsty for the thrill of live arts and performance were treated to dozens of creative disciplines including installation, fashion, music, drag, film, and



visual art.

With help from the Maine-New Brunswick Cultural Initiative, a task force formed with arts professionals from both sides of the U.S.-Canada border, Maine artists were able to build their networks with Canadian festival operators, venues, and gallery spaces.

The cultural exchange includes members of the Maine Arts Commission, SPACE Gallery, and Music New Brunswick who developed the reciprocal project to further improve touring opportunities for local musicians. June's Flourish Festival hosted a delegation of over **two dozen Maine artists and creative leaders**. Details for the Maine event are being finalized for a multi-day engagement to be held in Portland later this fall.



Maine Arts Commission Welcomes

KHRISTINA KURASZ

Khristina Kurasz joined the Maine Arts Commission as the new Director of Special Projects. She comes to the Maine Arts Commission having spent the past two years at The Lunder Institute for American Art, Colby College Museum of Art as their Manager of Operations and Special Projects.



Khristina brings a holistic view of the arts, Maine's creative economy and workforce development to her position. She holds a B.A in health arts and sciences from Goddard College and an M.F.A in creative writing from Fairfield University. She lives in Pittston, Maine in a historic home on the Kennebec river with her husband Edward, their two cat friends, and Kupcakes the Shiatzu.

Public Art Opportunities

Percent For Art - Washington County Community College

Calling Maine artists to submit proposals to design, create and install artwork in newly renovated spaces in Riverview Hall, the central building of the Washington County Community College in Calais, Maine. Open to all artists with a connection to Maine.



PROJECT BUDGET \$18,000

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: August 15, 2022, 5:00 p.m. EST

A selection committee of five members will jury submissions for the project. The committee will review the materials to determine whom to invite for a second round of evaluation.

Artists selected for the second round will receive a \$500 design fee for refining their proposals. Final proposals will include detailed models, drawings, renderings, samples of work and/or materials depending on the nature of the proposal. Learn more about [Percent For Art opportunities here](#)>

A Mural For Mental Health



Together Place Peer Run Recovery Center in Bangor is seeking submissions for a public mural near the downtown waterfront.

Contract Amount: \$5,000.00

The project is open to artists living in Maine.

DEADLINE for Proposals Friday, July 22, 2022.

Learn more about Together Place and their project [HERE](#)>

We Seek Artist(s) Who Will:

- collaborate with a mural committee convened by Together Place.
- Supervise, in a meaningful mentor role, a small group of members of Together Place who, under the artist's direction and oversight, would assist in creation of the mural.
- have a vision for a mural(s) that will serve as a long-term point of community pride and neighborhood recovery.

MAINE FILM INDUSTRY'S ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT

The Maine film industry generates an annual \$64.3 million in total economic impact on the state, and yet many might wonder, “but what does that really mean?” or “what do we do with this information?”



The Maine Film Association conducted a study of 128 Maine-based film and production entities: 38 companies and 90 freelance production professionals/independent filmmakers.

The study found that the Maine film and video production industry has a direct economic impact of \$29.25 million in revenue, while supporting other sectors in the state– hospitality, retail, trades, legal, accounting services, etc. With the results, MFA concluded that Maine has the opportunity to create an

environment that fosters growth within this innovative workforce, an environment that will entice young, creative, and tech-savvy professionals to come to our state and offer exciting reasons for our native talent to stay.

[READ THE FULL REPORT HERE](#)

Art In The Capitol Presents:

NORMA RANDI SMITH

Indigenous artist Norma “Randi” Smith is showcasing her works in the Capitol Building through August 2022.

A member of the Passamaquoddy tribe, Norma says she paints what she draws inspiration from, which includes profound dreams, ideas and impressions. Norma also likes to convey the beauty of the world around her, recreating those favorite places she has visited among her journeys of outdoor adventures in the beautiful state of Maine.

Norma's works can be viewed as a self-guided tour through the Maine State House, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The show is free and always open public.



See more of Norma’s current endeavors at **her website:** randismithpaints.com or follow her on her on Instagram [@emerald_forests](https://www.instagram.com/emerald_forests).
(Pictured art work: *Poor Wolf, Older*)

Maine Expansion Arts: Volunteers Needed

The Maine Community Foundation is restructuring their grant review process for the **Expansion Arts Program**. Expansion Arts supports organizations and arts-based programs in Maine serving rural communities and/or Black, Indigenous, and other people of color, particularly in areas with limited access to the arts.

The Maine Community Foundation will test having multiple people review and score a single application. Its purpose will help:

1. Test the process of how to engage a larger number of people in reading and scoring grants.
2. Create a two-way introduction to help identify prospects for seating a well-balanced formal committee with staggered terms to begin with the 2023 cycle
3. Provide feedback on the time commitment and other factors to continue refining the relationship between the roles of staff, external readers/scorers, and external readers/scores/decision makers.



To learn more about the volunteer opportunity, and how the restructuring will benefit Maine arts, culture, and humanities [CLICK HERE>](#)



Maine Arts News & Opportunities

- [Merry Barn Presents Weekly Summer Writing Adventures for Kids](#)
 - [Mayo Street Arts Supports Maine Traditional Arts Network](#)
 - [City of Bangor Request for Proposals for Davis Brook Stack - Public Art](#)
 - [LA Arts Seeking Non-Profit Arts Agency Manager](#)
 - [Haystack Mountain School of Craft Seeks Executive Director](#)
 - [Portland Conservatory of Music Seeking Executive Director](#)
 - [Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts Hiring Executive Director](#)
 - [Eastport Arts Center Seeks Executive Director](#)
 - [MUNKA Studios seeking proposals for mural](#)
 - [Volunteer Wanted at Maine Museum of Photographic Arts](#)
- Get found: be sure to update your directory listing at [MaineArts.com](#), as well as at the New England Foundation for the Arts' [CREATIVE GROUND](#).

Events & Additional Opportunities

- [Creative Portland Summer Stage Series - 7/1](#)
- [Saco River Theatre Presents Hiroya Tsukamoto 7/1](#)
- [Kenneth Mancini Exhibits at Richard Boyd Art Gallery 7/1](#)
- [Staged Reading of Hind Sight by Laura Emack, Buckport, 7/2](#)
- [Deering Oakes Park Presents "The Tempest" 7/7](#)
- [Camden Opera House Presents: KIMI Ensemble 7/8](#)
- [Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts Presents Salad Days 7/9](#)

- [Celebration Barn Presents Mike Miclon's The Early Evening Show 7/9](#)
- [Mixed Media Works - 2022 at the Media Center/NH Art Association 7/11](#)
- [Al Hospers and The Valley Horns With Kemp Harris 7/15](#)
- [Blue Hill Bach 2022 Summer Festival - 7/12 - 7/16](#)
- [Puppet Camp With A Twist, Denmark Arts Center 7/13](#)
- [Celebration of Life for Ashley Bryan 7/13](#)
- [Shakespeare Under The Stars - Romeo & Juliet, Indian Trail Park 7/21](#)
- [Suite Sundays At The Dance Hall Kittery: Contemporary Chamber Ballet 7/24](#)
- [Maine Outdoor Film Festival 7/28 - 8/14](#)
- [UMass Amherst Arts Extension Service Summer Classes Presents Grant Writing for the Arts, 7/11 - 8/19](#)
- [Maine Philanthropy Center Learning Series: Listening to Community Priorities in Wabanakiq 7/27](#)
- [Grants for Arts Projects - National Endowment for that Arts, Deadline 7/7](#)
- [Gallery at Somes Sound Meet & Greet 7/30](#)
- [The Bacon Brothers Live at the Waterville Opera House 7/31](#)
- [New England States Touring Grant - Apply by August 1](#)
- [Call for Exhibition Proposals, Gallery 263 - Deadline August 8](#)

